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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/784,805

02/24/2004

Yoshinobu Imoto

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EXAMINER

ADEGEYE, OLUWASEUN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2621

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/784,805	Applicant(s) IMOTO, YOSHINOBU	
	Examiner OLUWASEUN A. ADEGEYE	Art Unit 2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/24/2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02/24/2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 6 and 10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1 – 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Um et al (US 2003/0118327 A1) in view of Ito et al (US 6,937,356 B1), St. Pierre (US 6,853,841 B1), Kubota et al (US 5,469, 272) and Hintzman et al (US 5,818,364).

As to **claim 10**, Um discloses an optical disk reproducing apparatus comprising:
a reading unit (fig. 2, 38) that reads image data recorded on an optical disk (see [38], [39] and fig. 2);

a first decoding unit (fig. 2, 34, 35) that decodes moving image data (see [38]);

a second decoding unit (fig. 2, 32, 33) that decodes still image file including still image data (see [39]);

a switching unit (fig. 2, 19, 37) that receives the image data from the reading unit, outputs the image data to the first decoding unit when the image data is the moving

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data, and outputs the image data to the second decoding unit when the image data is the still image data (see [38], [39] and fig. 2);

a video signal output unit (fig. 2, 30, 31) that is connected to the first decoding unit and the second decoding unit and outputs a reproduction video signal of the image data decoded by the first decoding unit or by the second decoding unit (see [38] and [39]);

Um also discloses a controller (19) but does not disclose

a header analysis unit that is disposed between the switching unit and the second decoding unit and analyzes a header of the still image file;

a control unit that determines whether or not an extension of the still image file is a predetermined extension; wherein when the control unit determines that extension of the still image file is the predetermined extension, the header analysis unit analyzes the header of the still image file and determines whether or not the still image file is a still image file that is decodable; and

reading of the still image file by the reading unit is stopped when the header analysis unit determines that the still image file is a still image file that is not decodable.

Ito discloses a header analysis unit (fig. 15, 621) that analyzes a header of the still image file (see column 16, lines 15 – 18, column 17, lines 3 – 7 and column 17, lines 46 – 51).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the header analysis unit taught by Ito to the

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apparatus of Um so that pictures can be taken or processed even during a print, display, transmission or viewing of the pictures (see column 5, lines 43 – 50).

St. Pierre discloses a control unit that determines whether or not an extension of the still image file is a predetermined extension; wherein when the control unit determines that extension of the still image file is the predetermined extension, the header analysis unit analyzes the header of the still image file that is compressed in a decodable format within the predetermined extension (see column 6, line 64 – column 7, line 13)

St. Pierre discloses a header analysis unit that determines whether or not the still image file is a still image file that is decodable (see column 6, line 64 – column 7, line 13).

St. Pierre discloses reading of the still image file by the reading unit is stopped when the header analysis unit determines that the still image file is a still image file that is not decodable (see column 6, line 64 – column 7, line 13).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the determining step of St. Pierre to the apparatus of Um in view of Ito to provide a protocol facilitating the control of multiple network attached devices by a remote control device (see column 1, lines 8 – 10).

Um in view of Ito and St. Pierre does not disclose a header analysis unit.

Kubota discloses a header analysis unit that determines whether or not the still image file is a still image file that is decodable (column 2, lines 36 – 37 discloses a

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header with ID. Column 21, line 52 – column 22, line 3 discloses determining whether a still image file is decodable or not).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the header analysis unit of Kubota to the apparatus of Um in view of Ito and St. Pierre to arrive at an apparatus in which the format is such that the digital signals recorded on the recording medium by a function subject to interchangeability may be distinguished from those not subject to interchangeability (see column 3, lines 13 – 22)

Um in view of Ito ,St. Pierre and Kubota does not disclose wherein the second determination means is configured to determine that the still image file is the still image file that is compressed in the decodable format to the body, when a marker indicating that the still image file is a file of a progressive JPEG format is present in a range from a marker indicating an image start to a marker indicating a scan start with of the inputted header, and in a case that a code indicating the JPEG format is present.

Hintzman discloses wherein the second determination means is configured to determine that the still image file is the still image file that is compressed in the decodable format to the body, when a marker indicating that the still image file is a file of a progressive JPEG format is present in a range from a marker indicating an image start to a marker indicating a scan start with of the inputted header, and in a case that a code indicating the JPEG format is present (see column 2, lines 26 – 35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the function of adding a marker to the still image as

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taught by Hintzman to the apparatus of Um in view of Ito and St. Pierre to arrive at an apparatus for data compression and decompression in still image (JPEG) and video image (MPEG) applications (see column 1, lines 6 – 10).

As to **claim 2**, Um discloses an optical disk reproducing apparatus comprising:

a body (see [22]);

reading means (fig. 2, 38) for reading image data recorded on an optical disk set in the body (see [38] and [39]);

decoding means (fig. 2, 32, 33, 34, 35) for decoding the image data read by the reading means (see [38] and [39]);

video signal output means (fig. 2, 30, 31) for outputting a reproduction video signal of the image data decoded by the decoding means (see [38] and [39]);

Um does not disclose first determination means in which when an extension of a still image file instructed to be reproduced is a predetermined extension, a header of the still image file is analyzed and it is determined whether or not the still image file is a still image file that is decodable in the body; and

reading stop means for stopping reading of the still image file by the reading means when the determination means determines that the still image file is a still image file that is not decodable in the body.

Ito also discloses first determination means that determines whether or not an extension of the still image file is a predetermined extension (see column 17, lines 19 – 25); wherein when the control unit determines that extension of the still image file is the predetermined extension, the header analysis unit analyzes the header of the still image

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file that is compressed in a decodable format within the predetermined extension (see column 17, lines 33 – 51).

Kubota discloses a header analysis unit that determines whether or not the still image file is a still image file that is decodable (column 2, lines 36 – 37 discloses a header with ID. Column 21, line 52 – column 22, line 3 discloses determining whether a still image file is decodable or not).

Kubota also discloses reading stop means for stopping reading of the still image file by the reading means when the determination means determines that the still image file is a still image file that is not decodable in the body (see column 21, line 52 – column 22, line 3).

Um in view of Ito and St. Kubota does not disclose wherein the second determination means is configured to determine that the still image file is the still image file that is compressed in the decodable format to the body, when a marker indicating that the still image file is a file of a progressive JPEG format is present in a range from a marker indicating an image start to a marker indicating a scan start with of the inputted header, and in a case that a code indicating the JPEG format is present.

Hintzman discloses wherein the second determination means is configured to determine that the still image file is the still image file that is compressed in the decodable format to the body, when a marker indicating that the still image file is a file of a progressive JPEG format is present in a range from a marker indicating an image start to a marker indicating a scan start with of the inputted header, and in a case that a code indicating the JPEG format is present (see column 2, lines 26 – 35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the function of adding a marker to the still image as taught by Hintzman to the apparatus of Um in view of Ito, St. Pierre and Kubota to arrive at an apparatus for data compression and decompression in still image (JPEG) and video image (MPEG) applications (see column 1, lines 6 – 10).

As to **claim 1**, this claim differs from claim 2 only in that the limitation “wherein the video signal output means outputs a predetermined video signal when the determination means determines that the still image file is the still image file that is not decodable in the body” is additionally recited.

Kubota discloses wherein the video signal output means outputs a predetermined video signal when the determination means determines that the still image file is the still image file that is not decodable in the body (see column 21, lines 37 – 46).

As to **claim 6**, grounds for rejecting claim 2 apply to claim 6 in its entirety.

As to **claim 3**, Um in view of Ito and Kubota disclose the optical disk reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 2.

Kubota discloses the video signal output means outputs a predetermined video signal when the determination means determines that the still image file is the still image file that is not decodable in the body(see column 21, lines 37 – 46).

As to **claim 4**, Ito discloses the optical disk reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the predetermined extension is JPG (see column 17, lines 3 – 7 and column 21, lines 38 – 42).

As to **claim 5**, Um discloses the optical disk reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the decoding means has a function of decoding moving image data compressed in MPEG2 (see [47]).

As to **claim 7**, grounds for rejecting claim 3 apply to claim 7 in its entirety.

As to **claim 8**, grounds for rejecting claim 4 apply to claim 8 in its entirety.

As to **claim 9**, grounds for rejecting claim 5 apply to claim 9 in its entirety.

As to **claim 11**, grounds for rejecting claim 3 apply to claim 11 in its entirety.

As to **claim 12**, grounds for rejecting claim 4 apply to claim 12 in its entirety.

As to **claim 13**, grounds for rejecting claim 5 apply to claim 13 in its entirety.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to OLUWASEUN A. ADEGEYE whose telephone number is (571)270-1711. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30 - 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marsha D. Banks-Harold can be reached on 571-272-7905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Marsha D. Banks-Harold/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621

09/12/2009

/O.A/